

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 00879 082038Z

66

ACTION SS-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 EB-11 CIEP-02 INT-08 SCI-06

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PA-04 PRS-01 USIE-00

SAM-01 SPC-03 TRSE-00 COME-00 NSC-10 OMB-01 L-03 H-03

NEA-11 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 DRC-01 /133 W

----- 107321

O R 081950Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9872

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

USMISSION OECD PARIS UNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRUSSELS 0879

STATE FOR T/IEP

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, BE

SUBJECT: ENERGY: BELGIAN VIEWS ON WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE

1. DAVIGNON, DIRECTOR GENERAL POLITICAL AFFAIRS, MINISTRY OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS, OUTLINED GOB VIEWS ON WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE

AT PRESS CONFERENCE AFTERNOON FRIDAY 8. CONTRARY TO CUSTOM,
DAVIGNON EMPHASIZED TO NEWSMEN THAT HIS REMARKS WERE "QUOTABLE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BRUSSE 00879 082038Z

AND USABLE AS THEY ARE THE OFFICIAL VIEWS OF MY GOVERNMENT."

FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF HIS REMARKS.

2. THERE ARE TWO VIEWS OF EC MANDATE GIVEN TO SCHEEL AND ORTOLI. "WRONG WAY" WAS FRENCH VIEW THAT EC PARTICIPATION AND MANDATE WAS INSPIRED BY USG. THIS IS NOT TRUE. MANDATE IS TRULY EC POSITION.

3. THE FRENCH ADDED ONLY ONE SENTENCE TO FINAL MANDATE, NAMELY THAT REFERRING TO MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS. "IN ORDER TO KEEP UP WITH FRENCH," GOB ALSO ADDED ONE SENTENCE, CALLING FOR "FLEXIBLE PROCEDURES FOR CONSULTATION WITH THE COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN THE CONDERENCE AND OTHER CONSUMING COUNTRIES.

4. FROM THE EC'S POINT OF VIEW, THE PURPOSE OF ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE IS TO DEFINE, BY A CONSULTATIVE PROCESS, THE INTERESTS OF THE COMMUNITY.

5. THERE WAS ONLY ONE REAL DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN THE EC AND THE USG. THE EC DOES NOT RPT NOT BELIEVE THAT A PERMANENT CONFERENCE TO STUDY THE ECONOMIC AND MONETARY CONSEQUENCES OF THE ENERGY CRISIS AND OF THE ENERGY SUPPLY IS THE BEST METHOD FOR DEALING WITH THESE PROBLEMS. THIS IS DIVERGENCE OF OPINION WHICH GOES BACK TO SECRETARY KISSINGER'S SPEECH OF APRIL 23, 1973. "IF WE ARE TO DISCUSS COMMON INTERESTS AND POLICIES IN SUCH A FRAMEWORK IT WOULD TRIGGER OFF A CONSIDERABLE REACTION."

6. PRESIDENT NIXON INVITED US TO EXCHANGE IDEAS; SEE IF THERE IS A CONSENSUS, AND TO DETERMINE FUTURE STRATEGY. HE PROMISED THAT UNDER SECRETARY DONALDSON WOULD VISIT EUROPE AND JAPAN IN ADVANCE BUT, IN THE EVENT, DONALDSON WAS UNABLE TO COME TO EUROPE. FOR THE USG WAS NOT READY, I.E., IT HAD NOT FORMULATED ITS POSITION. THIS IS UNDERSTANDABLE, AND THE USG SHOULD NOT BE SUBJECT OF CRITICISM.

7. SUBSEQUENTLY, ANOTHER US CONFERENCE DOCUMENT ARRIVED WHICH DIVERGED SOMEWHAT FROM THE ORIGINAL INVITATION. THE EC REFUSAL TO FULLY ACCEPT THE FOLLOW-UP DOCUMENT REFLECTS A DIFFERENCE OF OPINION. THE EC IS PREPARED TO DISCUSS ALL ITEMS LISTED ON THE USG AGENDA. "LET US TRY TO AGREE TOGETHER ON WAYS OF HANDLING" ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES OF THE ENERGY CRISIS AND THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BRUSSE 00879 082038Z

APPORTIONING OF SUPPLY. POSSIBLY, THE OECD OIL COMMITTEE CREATED AT THE TIME OF THE FIRST PETROLEUM CRISIS (SUEZ, 1956) SHOULD BE REVIVED. IT IS THE POLITICAL FORUM WHERE THESE PROBLEMS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED (OUR COMMENT: PRESUMABLY AFTER THE WASHINGTON CONFERENCE).

8. MONETARY PROBLEMS, HOWEVER, SHOULD NOT BE DISCUSSED ONLY AMONG BALANCE OF PAYMENTS DEFICIT COUNTRIES. APPRO-

PRIATE FORUMS FOR DEALING WITH MONETARY PROBLEMS ARE THE GROUP OF 20 AND THE IMF.

9. THERE MUST BE A DIALOGUE WITH THE PRODUCERS IN ORDER TO FIND OUT WHAT THEY HAVE TO SAY.

10. IN REGARD TO SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL QUESTIONS, INCLUDING THE SUBJECT OF ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES, THE EC APPROVES OF THE IDEA OF CREATING AN AD HOC STUDY GROUP.

11. TO SUM UP, THE EC ATTITUDE SHOULD NOT BE CHARACTERIZED AS NEGATIVE BUT MERELY AS DIFFERING FROM THAT OF THE US. THIS OVERALL POSITION OF THE EC TOWARDS THE ENERGY CRISIS AND THE WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE IS A FUNDAMENTAL TEST FOR THE EC: IS THE MANDATE ONLY FOR SHOW OR WILL IT TRULY HOLD TOGETHER AT THE CONFERENCE. THE MANDATE GIVEN TO SCHEEL AND ORTOLI IS "ABSOLUTELY REASONABLE" AND REFLECTS A "CONSENSUS AMONG THE GOVERNMENTS."

12. THE EUROPEANS WANT THE CONFERENCE TO SUCCEED. THIS IS WHY THEY DID NOT ACCEPT THE IDEA OF PARALLEL CONFERENCES (FOREIGN MINISTERS AND FINANCE MINISTERS) IN WASHINGTON. IT WOULD BE TOO DIFFICULT FOR THE EC PARTICIPANTS TO HOLD TO A COHERENT EC POSITION IN TWO SIMULTANEOUS CONFERENCES. THE EC HAS NO OBJECTION TO CREATING WORKING GROUPS, INCLUDING ONE TO DEAL WITH FINANCIAL MATTERS. THESE COULD BE OF TWO KINDS (A) EXPERT LEVEL WORKING GROUP TO OPERATE DURING THE CONFERENCE AND (B) INDEPENDENT WORKING GROUPS, TO BE CREATED AFTER THE CONFERENCE, DEALING WITH SPECIFIC TOPICS.

13. THE EC WILL SAY AT THE CONFERENCE THAT IT WILL NOT AGREE TO THE CREATION OF A PERMANENT BODY; BUT IT WILL AGREE TO CONSULTATIONS IN THE FUTURE.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 BRUSSE 00879 082038Z

14. PRODUCER-CONSUMER BILATERAL AGREEMENTS ARE UNAVOIDABLE BUT SHOULD BE CONCLUDED ONLY UNDER EC RULES WORKED OUT BY THE NEW EC ENERGY COMMITTEE. HOWEVER, UNDER ANY CONDITIONS, ESCALATION BY COMPETITIVE BIDDING MUST BE AVOIDED.

15. US-EC POLICY POSITIONS ARE DISSIMILAR, FOR THE US IS THE WORLD'S MAJOR ENERGY PRODUCER AND MAY WELL BE SELF-SUFFICIENT BY 1980. EUROPE CAN NEVER BE SELF-SUFFICIENT AND THEREFORE ITS VIEWS ON ENERGY POLICY CANNOT BE BUT DIFFERENT.

16. THE UPCOMING FEBRUARY 14 EC FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING IN BONN WILL RESULT IN A SERIOUS INITIATIVE TOWARDS THE ARAB WORLD. "WORK IS VERY ADVANCED," BASED UPON PARAGRAPH 5 OF THE

NOVEMBER 6 EC DECLARATION.STRAUSZ-HUPE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ENERGY, FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETINGS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BRUSSE00879
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740247/aaaabrpn.tel
Line Count: 170
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 MAR 2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <31 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ENERGY: BELGIAN VIEWS ON WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE
TAGS: ENRG, BE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005